

Admit Jobless Picture Is Worst in 20 Years

By Harry Ring

"It's a rough situation."

That's the considered judgment of Seymour Wolfbein, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor, who says the current jobless picture "has never been worse for a January since the start of World War II."

The 5,400,000 who were officially classified as unemployed last month will certainly agree it's a "rough situation."

So will the 1,700,000 who were listed as employed only part time.

Agreement will be even more

solid among the "long-term" unemployed — those out of work 16 weeks or more. Their ranks grew by one-third last month and more than half of them have been jobless at least six months.

And their view of the situation won't be brightened by the news that there were 900,000 less factory jobs than in January, 1960.

Or by the official estimate that when the figures are in for this month the jobless toll will be 5,500,000.

But maybe they'll be heartened by the fact that Secretary of Labor Goldberg made a whirlwind tour

of some of the areas classified as suffering "substantial" unemployment, that is, six per cent or more of the work force. Twenty-five areas were added to the list last month for a total of 76 out of the country's 150 key industrial areas.

The situation is really "rough" in these centers. In the Chicago area, where 190,000 are jobless, about the only outfit that's doing any hiring is the unemployment compensation commission. The state has added 350 employees to process claims which have doubled in the past seven months.

Chicago's private welfare agen-

cies have been rushed, too. They report increases of 100 to 300 per cent in case loads.

The Chicago Urban League reports up to 48 appeals a day from Negroes desperate for jobs. One League spokesman says he's advising single men to consider joining the armed forces.

In St. Louis, where 8.4 per cent of the work force are jobless, the Salvation Army reports being "swamped" with appeals for help and having to turn away 30 to 40 families a day.

Goldberg concludes that we're in "a full-fledged recession" and

that only prompt action will forestall "a real depression."

What kind of "prompt action" does the Kennedy administration plan to take?

The best the president has come up with will help, but not very much. He has asked Congress to approve a federal grant to temporarily extend unemployment benefits for an additional maximum period of 13 weeks — but for only one-half the benefits previously drawn.

That means if you collect the national average of \$34 a week

(Continued on Page 2)

THE MILITANT

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A few of the 500 visitors on Lincoln's birthday who called on 11 Negro students jailed at York County Prison Camp. The 11 defendants were arrested for trying to integrate lunch counters at Rock Hill, S.C. The visit marked the first anniversary of Rock Hill sit-ins.

Students Join "Jail-Ins" In Three Southern States

More than a hundred students were in Southern jails on Lincoln's birthday as they pressed a bold new drive against restaurant Jim Crow. Continuing the "jail, no bail" movement in Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia, they chose prison cells and rock piles to posting bond or paying fines after being arrested for requesting service at lunch counters.

In Atlanta, Ga., officials were hauling out extra cots to accommodate the 80 young people who created an overflow in the "Negro only" section of the county jail.

Militant students at Friendship Junior College in Rock Hill, S.C., continued mass picketing at local drug and variety stores throughout last week. On Saturday, the marchers were joined by 40 students from Nashville, Tenn.

On Sunday, a motorcade of more than 300 Rock Hill students defied a warning from police officials and drove to the county jail for a mass visit to 18 young rights fighters who elected to serve 30 days at hard labor to paying \$100 "trespass" fines.

State troopers encircled the jail to keep them out but after several hours authorities agreed to permit ten cars at a time to enter the compound for five-minute visits with the prisoners.

Meanwhile, in Lynchburg, Va., a series of sit-ins culminated in six more arrests at a local drugstore. But another sit-in a block

away at a People Service drugstore won service for the Negro youths. The store manager told newsmen his district office had made the desegregation decision after the sit-in began.

A meeting was scheduled in Atlanta last weekend of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee to determine whether or not to continue the "jail, no bail" movement that it had launched. The committee is composed of representatives of colleges in the area and serves as a "clearing house" for the sit-in movement.

Prior to the meeting, Lonnie C. King, Jr., one of the student leaders in the area, denied published reports that a decision had been made to call off the jail-in movement.

Meanwhile, a New York Post correspondent reported this conversation at the Atlanta jail with Lenora Taitt, 22, a Spellman College coed from New York:

"Most of us have informed our parents of this thing we are trying to do. All of them don't understand everything about the 'jail without bail' movement, but they know we are doing something right."

"How long will you stay in jail?"

"We are prepared to stay here until . . ."

"Until when?"

"Just until."

Mich. Socialists List Jobs Fight As No. 1 Issue

DETROIT, Feb. 12 — Meeting here today to nominate candidates for the spring general election, the state caucus of the Socialist Workers party called unemployment "the most urgent problem in Michigan."

Sarah Lovell, candidate for Board of Regents of the University of Michigan, scored government inaction. "State officials," she said, "have shown an inhuman disregard for the suffering of thousands of people who can't find work."

She called for "state legislation for the 30-hour week with no cut in pay, compensation at union wages for the duration of unemployment and a public-works program of low-rent homes, hospitals and schools."

Other nominees were Robert Himmel for Superintendent of Public Instruction; Harriet Talan for Board of Governors of Wayne State University; Edith Gbur for Board of Regents of the University of Michigan; Robert Fink for Board of Trustees of Michigan State University, and Larry Dolinski for State Board of Education.

The SWP caucus passed a resolution calling for "an end to the \$45-billion arms budget. This money should be used to finance schools, housing, public works and a complete free education for all U.S. students."

Robert Himmel, who recently returned from a trip to Cuba, spoke of the challenge of Cuba's educational program.

"They have started to educate the entire population at government expense," he said. "New schools are being built by the thousands. These institutions are tuition free and Cuban schools don't segregate either. If a small, poor and beleaguered country like Cuba can provide free education for its people, we, in the richest country in the world, have no excuse for not doing the same."

Committee Blasts Lumumba Murder

NEW YORK — The Liberation Committee for Africa has denounced the U.S. Government, UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold and his assistant Ralph Bunche as "the real murderers of Congolese Premier Patrice Lumumba."

Daniel H. Watts, chairman of the committee, charged that while the UN had been invited into the Congo by Lumumba to combat Belgian attempts to dismember the fledgling nation, the UN forces had thrown their weight behind "the thugs of Mobutu and Tshombe," thus violating the mandate under which it had entered the Congo.

Richard Gibson, secretary of the committee, called for aid "to crush the Kasavubu, Mobutu, Tshombe clique who are in the employ of Belgium and its NATO partners."

Lynch murder under the UN flag: See page 3.



Militant photo by Reba Aubrey

At New York Fair Play for Cuba rally, Richard Tussey, chairman Local 72, Mechanics Educational Society, AFL-CIO, Cleveland; and James Higgins, assistant editor, York, Pa., Gazette & Daily.

Chris Bacon Learns That You Can't Win

After Christopher Bacon, a Cambridge graduate studying at the University of California, joined a San Francisco protest demonstration against the witch-hunting House Un-American Activities Committee, he was constantly shadowed by plainclothesmen.

Later Chris went to Thailand to study. Officials promptly deported him "because you were involved in the United States with a Communist group, the Un-American Activities Committee."

World Hails First Rocket To Earth's Sister Planets

If it has done nothing else, the sensational Soviet rocket shot at the planet Venus has, without doubt, resolved the controversy in Washington over the "East-West missile gap."

"European scientists and newspapers on both sides of the Iron Curtain," says the Feb. 14 New York Times, "hailed today the Soviet rocket shot at Venus. Some termed it the greatest space achievement since the Russians hurled the first Sputnik into orbit in 1957."

Relating the Venus rocket to the arms race, some British observers "saw the Soviet feat as a grave military warning to the West." The Daily Sketch, a British tabloid paper, said:

"If the Russians can hit Venus 26,000,000 miles away, it would be child's play to pin-point earth targets from only 100 miles out in space."

"What answer has the West? None," says the paper, "not until the day it too can put a gun into space."

One of the American scientists, who plays a leading role in designing a Venus rocket, estimates it will take another year and a half from now at the earliest.

Dr. Albert R. Hibbs, chief of the space science division of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in La Canada, Calif., said that the United States could not launch a Venus rocket sooner, "because it does not have a booster rocket powerful enough."

"Dr. Hibbs estimated the Russian rocket that put yesterday's Sputnik — and its piggy-back interplanetary space station — into orbit developed 1,000,000 pounds of thrust when it lifted off its launching pad in the Soviet Union."

[This country's most powerful operational rocket is the Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile which develops about 380,000 pounds of thrust.]

Scientists were impressed with the technological achievement represented by the Venus rocket shot. Such technological precision as is involved in launching the Venus rocket is superior to any yet achieved in this country — the most highly advanced of the capitalist industrial complexes.

The Soviet outer-space achievement again highlights the superiority of the system of planned economy over that of the so-called "free enterprise system."

White House Plans to Dictate Auto Pact

By Tom Kerr

FEB. 14 — In a statement issued as a press release early this month, United Automobile Workers President Walter Reuther declared: "We welcome President Kennedy's announcement that he will create a Presidential Advisory Committee on Labor-Management Policy." Other AFL-CIO leaders have joined Reuther in hailing the Kennedy committee as a means of achieving labor-management harmony and cooperation in combatting the recession.

Two of the announced aims of the Kennedy advisory committee are (1) to promote "wage-price stability," and (2) to improve "America's competitive position in world markets." Both these objectives are Kennedy administration targets in the forthcoming negotiations between the auto industry and the UAW. The outcome of these contract negotiations will, in large measure, determine the pattern for large sectors of American industry.

Who Will Decide?

In a special study of the Kennedy administration price- and wage-policy intentions, the Feb. 13 *Wall Street Journal* points out: "Auto manufacturing is among the major industries whose labor contracts are up for negotiations this year. Officials viewing this round of collective bargaining with a sense of national purpose consider it essential that they determine the final outcome; changes in labor costs and subsequent price adjustments cannot be left to United Auto Workers chieftain Walter Reuther and the motor executives."

Weekly Calendar

DETROIT

Enjoy a social evening with friends of the Friday Night Socialist Forum. Labor and folk songs. Slides of Cuba. Refreshments. Sat., Feb. 25, 8:30 p.m. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward.

LOS ANGELES

Two Seminars. (1) Cuba. Theodore Edwards, Sundays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. through March 5. (2) Rise and Decline of the Communist Party. Arne Swabeck, Communist party founder, and Max Goldman. Sundays, 12:30-2 p.m. Through March 5. Contrib. 35 cents. International School of Socialism, 1702 E. 4th St. AN 9-4953 or WE 5-9238.

MINNEAPOLIS

Fair Play for Cuba Rally. Speakers, Robert F. Williams, president Union County, N.C., NAACP, and Edward Shaw, Midwest Rep., FPCC. Sat., Feb. 25, 8:30 p.m. University YMCA, 1425 University Ave., S.E. Contrib. 75 cents. Students 35 cents. Ausp. Twin Cities FPCC.

NEW YORK

Art and Political Commitment — From Picasso to "Socialist Realism." Speaker, Nat Weinstein. Fri., Feb. 24, 8:30 p.m. 116 University Place. Contrib. 50 cents. Ausp. Militant Labor Forum.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Socialist news commentary. Theodore Edwards, chairman, Southern Calif. SWP. Fri., Feb. 24, 6:45 p.m. FM station KPFK, 70.9 on your dial.

Local Directory

BOSTON. Boston Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave., Room 200.

CHICAGO. Socialist Workers Party, 302 South Canal St., Room 210. WE 9-0544.

CLEVELAND. Socialist Workers Party, 5927 Euclid Ave., Room 23, Cleveland 3, Ohio.

DENVER. Militant Labor Forum, 1227 California, Main 3-0933. For labor and socialist books, International Book Exchange, 1227½ California. Open 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mon. through Fri.

DETROIT. Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward. TEMple 1-6135.

LOS ANGELES. Forum Hall and Modern Book Shop. Socialist Workers Party, 1702 East Fourth St. AN 9-4953 or WE 5-9238. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. daily, Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

One of the things about Kennedy's labor-management advisory committee that commends itself to Walter Reuther is the fact that it will meet in advance of critical union bargaining sessions. "Too often," Reuther complains in his press statement hailing the Kennedy committee, "too often, meetings between labor and management take place under the most adverse circumstances for discussing rationally and temperately the broad problems of the American economy and American society."

Reuther and the other AFL-CIO labor statesmen will be happy to learn that all the "broad problems" will be discussed and digested in advance and the decision handed down before the bargaining sessions begin. At least that seems to be the plan as of now.

"Since this round of auto negotiations must not end with customary results," says the *Journal* report, "the Kennedy Administration has decided they must not even be permitted to begin in the usual fashion. Government men firmly intend to corral top management and union men in one room beforehand and tell them of the outcome of their bargaining sessions; only the details will be left to private dickering and decision."

By holding wages and fringe benefits to a minimum, administration sharpshooters hope that management can be induced to keep prices down. Otherwise, says the *Journal*, citing administration spokesmen, "if car prices were permitted to climb, the American balance-of-payment pinch would be aggravated by a resurgent flood of auto imports from Europe, it is calculated; if they are held firm,

U.S. compacts may well penetrate foreign markets."

Dog eat dog! To assist American capitalism in underselling foreign competitors at the expense of workers abroad, labor in this country will be called upon to accept lower wages and a reduced standard of living. Thus will "America's competitive position in world markets" be improved in line with the plan blueprinted by the Kennedy administration.

Resentment Expected

But won't the union leaders be able to count on their "friends" in Washington to defend the interests of labor? The labor statesmen have indeed been depending on the "new men" now running the Department of Labor, including ex-labor lawyer Labor Secretary Arthur J. Goldberg. But, says the *Journal*, these friends — in their best friendly-to-unions manner — "do plan on preventing big unions from getting what they otherwise could, and are reconciling themselves to expected resentment."

Another question to which the projected Advisory Committee on Labor-Management Policy will address itself will be automation and its effect upon employment. Reuther thinks this is just peachy! Automation unemployment has contributed more than its share to the growing army of chronically unemployed. Everyone agrees — something should be done.

"The future of our free society," proclaims Reuther in his press statement, "in large measure hinges upon our ability to harness the abundance of automation and

relate this abundance to the needs of the whole community."

(Reuther may not know it but his affirmation on our future society treads pretty close to the brink of — socialism! Only a society based upon production for use instead of profit can even hope "to harness the abundance of automation," etc., etc.)

At any rate, if Reuther had illusions about what the Kennedy administration and its committees have in mind, they were soon dispelled. A week after his statement hailing the Kennedy labor-management committee, Reuther appeared as a witness before the Joint Economic Committee of Congress. He there took exception to the Kennedy proposal to liberalize depreciation allowances for business expenditures on plant and equipment.

"The government," said Reuther, "should be boosting consumer demand, not production capacity, in the present state of affairs, with business operating at less than its present capacity." (*New York Times*, Feb. 10.)

When questioned about this estimate of present need at a news conference, Secretary of the Treasury Douglas Dillon, a top Kennedy economic adviser, said: "Expansion of capacity was not the primary purpose of the Administration's plan. The purpose," he said, "is to keep American prices stable and competitive in world markets, through more efficient production."

There you have it in a nutshell. The Kennedy plan is no different than the Eisenhower plan. Neither has anything to do with placing the welfare of America's unemployed workers before profits. In the name of productive efficiency — another of the aims of the Kennedy committee — the corporate interests of this country have conducted a costly campaign against what they call "featherbedding," "make-work-practices," and other such choice epithets.

Racist Frat in Ohio Feels Picket Siege

Students at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, are putting the heat on a racist-minded fraternity with a daily picket line.

The picketing began after Sigma Phi Epsilon refused to sign an interfraternity council antidiscrimination statement.

William Dickson, the president, said the chapter was "white and Christian" but this meant merely the right to be "selective," not discriminatory.

A group of students disagreed and set up the picket line in front of the fraternity house Feb. 8. They said they would keep it going until a nondiscrimination statement is signed.

At the present moment, one-quarter of American productive capacity stands idle. Fast tax write-offs and liberal depreciation allowances from the government treasury have amounted to a subsidy to big business for the purpose of taking older plant and equipment out of production. This process, in the steel industry for example, has meant that the corporations making steel can operate at approximately 40 per cent of capacity and still make a comfortable profit.

Heart of the Plan

What Dillon says is true — expansion of capacity is not the primary purpose of the Kennedy administration's plan. The heart of its plan is to spearhead the assault on the working and living standards of the American workers which has been going on under corporate direction for some time. What the auto corporations are unable to do by themselves will now be undertaken by the "friends of labor" in Washington.

All of the auto companies, *Business Week* reported on Dec. 24, "are determined — now — to hold cost lines in 1961 even more successfully than they did in 1958." It is in pursuance of this aim that Kennedy's Advisory Committee on Labor-Management Policy will expose its true purpose.

N. Y. Rally to Hear McWilliams

NEW YORK — The Emergency Civil Liberties Committee will hold a meeting to promote the abolition of the Un-American Activities Committee on Friday, Feb. 24, 8 p.m., at Judson Hall, 165 W. 57th St.

Carey McWilliams, editor of the *Nation* will preside. Speakers include Frank Donner, union attorney, and Professor Norman Redlick of New York University Law School.

Depression Ahead?

Are the outflow of gold and the depletion of the dollar just headaches for the Wall Street tycoons?

Or could they be symptoms of a serious ailment in the economy that could bring on a full-scale depression?

Read a competent analysis in layman's language by Lynn Marcus in the winter issue of *International Socialist Review*.

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Negro History Month

Negroes on the March, by Daniel Guerin. A socialist analysis of the nature and background of the current struggle for equality. Cloth, \$1.50. Paper, \$1.

Black Bourgeoisie, by E. Franklin Frazier. The rise of a new middle class in the United States. Cloth, \$4.

Black Moses, by Edmund Cronon. The story of Marcus Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association. Paper, \$1.95.

The Wall Between, by Anne Braden. A sensitive and enlightening description of the effect of segregation on Southern whites and Negroes. This book reports what happened when the Bradens bought a house for a Negro friend in a white neighborhood in Louisville, Ky. Paper, \$1.25.

Anti-Negro Prejudice: When It Began, How It Will End, by George Breitman. Paper, \$1.00.

The Strange Career of Jim Crow, by C. Vann Woodward. A brief account of the development of segre-

gation following the withdrawal of federal troops from the South in 1877 up to the present. Cloth, \$1.19.

Reunion and Reaction, by C. Vann Woodward. The compromise of 1877. Paper, \$95.

Black Reconstruction in America, by W. E. B. DuBois. A basic study of a key period in U.S. history from 1860-1880. Cloth, \$6.50.

The Struggle for Negro Equality, by John Saunders and Albert Parker. Paper, \$1.10.

Tender Warriors, by Dorothy Sterling. Story and pictures of the Little Rock struggle for school integration. Paper, \$2.25.

Thaddeus Stevens, by Ralph Kornblum. A biography. Cloth, \$4.

Caste, Class and Race, by Oliver Cromwell Cox. Cloth, \$7.50.

From Slavery To Freedom, by John Hope Franklin. A history of American Negroes. Second edition, revised and enlarged. Cloth, \$5.50.

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Monday, February 20, 1961

The Moscow-Peking Dispute

Edward Crankshaw, the *London Observer* expert on Soviet affairs, claims that a secret document has come into possession of interested persons in Great Britain giving details about the rumored bitter controversy between the leaders of Russia and China.

In a special feature reprinted in the Feb. 12 *New York Herald Tribune*, Crankshaw asserts: "There has come into British hands a fully-documented report of the charges and counter-charges exchange by Peiping and Moscow at the Moscow conference of more than eighty communist parties in November and December of last year."

Crankshaw claims that the report came from a "satellite source" and that there is a "strong possibility that it was a deliberate leak on the part of the Russians."

The implication is that the Soviet leaders are concerned that the capitalist world, especially the White House, not be misled into thinking that the unanimously adopted declaration of the 81 Communist parties be interpreted as a hardening of the Khrushchev line on "peaceful coexistence."

The acrimonious character of the debate, as revealed by the document, is indicated by Khrushchev's charge, made according to Crankshaw, "in his most violent mood," accusing "Mao Tsetung, the Chinese Communist leader, of being like Stalin, of being oblivious of any interests but his own and of spinning theories detached from the realities of the modern world."

On the other hand, the Soviet leaders came under heavy attack from Tseng Hsiao-ping, Secretary General of the Chinese Communist party. Tseng declared that "the Soviet party was opportunist and revisionist and lacked any deep knowledge of Marxism, its ideas about disarmament were absurd, its aid to Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India and President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic only helped imperialism and was an 'opportunist mistake,' etc., etc."

The sharp differences, extensively set forth in the document, range from serious concrete issues in the form of military assistance and technical aid to China to a number of doctrinal points ranging from the dispute over the "inevitability of war" to the definition of the epoch in which we live.

Crankshaw refers to the recent Moscow declaration as a "papering over of the cracks." Given the depth of the differences it could not be otherwise.

Before the Stalin era, the practice under Lenin and Trotsky was to publish full transcripts of the debates, texts of resolutions and reports, for all to see and judge. That method was far superior to the present one of attempting to cover up differences of opinion.

"Leaks" to the capitalist press play into the hands of enemies, helping them to give a conspiratorial air to legitimate discussion, while increasing the difficulties for friends of both China and the USSR to put the differences in true perspective.

A Boost for 'Listen, Yankee'

Partisans of the Cuban Revolution were generally quick to recognize that in combating the torrent of lies about the revolution they had an unusually potent weapon in C. Wright Mills' book, *Listen, Yankee*. The effectiveness of the book is pointed up by the fact that since its publication last November there have been three printings of the paperback edition, totaling 350,000 copies.

The continuing hate-Cuba campaign calls for a corresponding continuing effort to expand its circulation even further. From this viewpoint, we were gratified to read a very favorable review of *Listen, Yankee* in the Jan. 28 *People's World*, a San Francisco weekly reflecting the views of the Communist party on the West Coast.

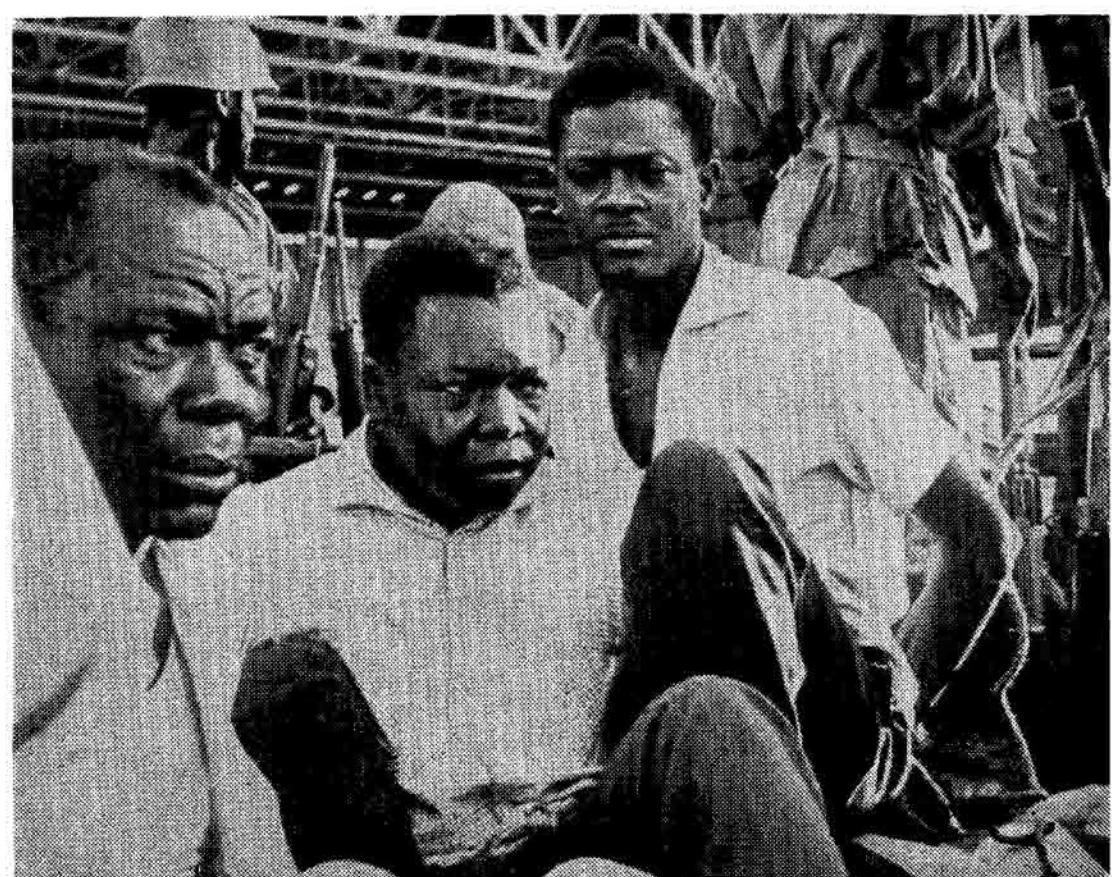
Written by "A.R." (presumably editor Al Richmond), the review declares: "In its sum, Mills' book is a rational and eloquent outcry against the U.S. government policy toward Cuba. As such, it ought to be read and spread."

This is a commendable stand since the reviewer disagrees with the book's estimate of the role of the Cuban Communist party. The composite Cuban revolutionary who writes the eight letters in *Listen, Yankee* sees the CP as having played no positive role in the overthrow of Batista and as presently tail-ending the revolutionary forces in Cuba and Latin America generally.

"A.R." states that while he has serious disagreements with Mills on this issue, he believes that in the face of Washington's drive against Cuba, "sophisticated political dispute [becomes] subordinate to the primary democratic and patriotic obligation of creating the informed public opinion that can resist and defeat the threatened invasion."

We believe this attitude toward the defense of the Cuban Revolution should be taken by the entire radical movement, including all of the Communist party. As of this writing, neither the *Worker* nor *Political Affairs*, both of which express the party's views, has commented on *Listen, Yankee*. We hope they will do so soon and, like the *People's World*, will do all they can to spread *Listen, Yankee* while reserving, of course, their full right to express those disagreements they may have with the views expressed in it.

Martyred African Freedom Fighters



Maurice Mpolo (left), Minister of Youth; Joseph Okito, vice-president of the Congolese Senate; and Patrice Lumumba, premier of the Republic of the Congo, after they were recaptured Dec. 1 by Col. Mobutu. Tied with rope, the three were brutally beaten. This is the last known photograph of the martyred victims.

Lynch Murder Under the UN Flag

By Joseph Hansen

Patrice Lumumba, Maurice Mpolo and Joseph Okito were reported by the Katanga provincial government to have been "massacred" Feb. 12 by the inhabitants of an unnamed "village" after the three "escaped" from protective custody.

The truth is that the legally elected head of the Republic of the Congo and his two lieutenants were murdered in cold blood. UN circles had been buzzing for days with rumors that the three were already dead when Munongo, the Katanga Minister of Interior, announced Feb. 10 that the three had "escaped."

The Katanga officials gave conflicting alibis. Their original story was that Lumumba and his two aides overpowered "two guards" at the "farmhouse" where they were held. The story was so incredible that the butchers issued a different publicity handout Feb. 11:

"A number of men with light brown skins" suddenly appeared at the farmhouse and "ordered" the guards to release the former Premier. The "brown skins" were alleged to be UN Moroccan troops.

When the killing of the three was admitted the following day, the "Moroccan troops" vanished as quickly as they had been conjured up. Lumumba and his fellow prisoners were caught alone, it was alleged, by villagers who "thought the fugitives had arms."

These conflicting versions came in the space of three days!

In his announcement of the triple murder, Munongo said that the identity of the village would not be revealed. Nor the location of the graves. The bodies, he said, were "buried immediately at a place we do not intend to reveal."

Munongo declared that the "villagers" acted "somewhat precipitously." But, he said, "we cannot honestly blame these people . . ." And no "judicial action" will be brought against them. Indeed, justice is to be still further tempered by giving the nameless heroes of the nameless "village" a reward of 400,000 francs (\$8,000).

This is because the citizens were only carrying out justice. Like a Southern sheriff after a lynching, Munongo argued: "I am certain that had Lumumba been brought before a court of law he would have got the death sentence."

However, if you still think the

"escape" story is a lie, don't judge the murderers too harshly. "I would remind you," said Munongo, "about Sacco and Vanzetti, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, Caryl Chessman in the United States."

The first two cases, as virtually the entire world knows, were raw frame-ups and cold-blooded judicial murders, while the case of Caryl Chessman bore witness to the savage thirst for blood so often displayed by American authorities. Munongo revealed more than he intended by drawing an analogy with these lynchings.

How did Lumumba happen to fall into the hands of the Katanga government? He was handed over by Kasavubu, who has been favored by Washington and the UN as a likely dictator to replace the legally elected government of the Republic of the Congo.

On Jan. 18, after telephone conversations with Katanga President Tshombe, reportedly involving a political deal, Kasavubu, who had imprisoned Lumumba and his two lieutenants, placed the three aboard a DC-4 and sent them to Elisabethville for "safe keeping." Lumumba, *Time* magazine reported, was "blindfolded and shackled" to the other two.

"En route," said *Time*, "the guards pummeled Lumumba so severely that the alarmed pilot went back to the cabin to warn against damage to the plane."

Upon arrival, the prisoners were again beaten. "The Katanga cops fell on all three, dropped them to the ground in a hail of swinging rifle butts. Then they flung Lumumba into a waiting Jeep. With four gendarmes sitting on him, Lumumba was whisked off to a new and secret jail."

That was just 23 days before the alleged escape. Some simple questions are suggested: Were 23 days sufficient for the three victims to recover from the terrible beating? Were their broken bones knitted firmly enough to permit them to use a mysterious "piece of iron" to carve through the sandstone wall of the implausible "farmhouse" and then club their two guards (only two guards!) with "tree limbs" conveniently at hand, as the official story claims?

Or were they clubbed to death 23 days earlier?

It seems most likely that the three prisoners were murdered on delivery at Elisabethville. This would explain Tshombe's persistent and enigmatic refusal to permit either Red Cross or UN

officials to visit his captives. The three had been buried.

The 35-year-old Lumumba was the only Congolese leader with a national following. As the head of the biggest party, the National Congolese Movement, he won a majority in the parliament and became Premier when the Congo gained independence June 30, 1960.

The Belgian imperialists, however, plotted a comeback and began to stir up civil war.

Lumumba made the tragic mistake of inviting the United Nations to send troops to the Congo to help oust the Belgians and organize the new government. In this he should not be held too much to blame. He was young, inexperienced and appeared to rely heavily on Soviet advice in such matters. The Soviet delegates voted for UN entry.

The UN deftly advanced the Belgian cause and on Sept. 14 a military coup began that brought Pres. Kasavubu and Col. Mobutu to power. Kasavubu placed Lumumba under house arrest.

The civil war continued to deepen. As the Congolese people saw the Belgian imperialists moving toward restoration of the old colonial rule, they rallied in increasing numbers behind Lumumba. The legitimate government established a new base at Stanleyville.

In November Lumumba sought to escape to the new capital city. He was recaptured and dragged back. Kasavubu's troops mauled the Premier. One report said his eyes were put out.

In recent weeks the Stanleyville regime, headed by Antoine Gizza, a follower of Lumumba, has made big gains. There has been talk around the White House of making some kind of "peaceful coexistence" deal — with the aid of Lumumba's Soviet advisers — that would bring the Premier into a new government together with Kasavubu. The obvious calculation was that Lumumba might head off revolution.

Perhaps the Belgians knew such a turn was in the wind and decided on the eve of Kennedy's inauguration to forestall it by having Lumumba executed. Apparently they believe that all they need now is brute force to tame the rebellious colony, or they were afraid that Lumumba, having learned from experience, might become the Fidel Castro of the Congo.

Detroit Jobless Put Goldberg on Spot

By Jack Barton

DETROIT, Feb. 11 — Labor Secretary Arthur Goldberg, on his junket "to gather information" for Kennedy on unemployment, met with a few surprises today at a hearing of jobless workers.

The meeting was staged by UAW President Walter Reuther, who introduced Goldberg.

Twenty-odd people had been hand-picked by the AFL-CIO for the publicity stunt. However, the Greater Detroit UAW Unemployed Coordinating Committee, a rank-and-file organization, circulated a leaflet calling on the unemployed to show up. The result was a group of 150 even though the meeting was switched at the last minute to another address.

The meeting turned into a lively debate between the unemployed and Goldberg. He assured the audience that his tour was not a publicity stunt but was undertaken to "manifest the concern of the president about the plight of the unemployed. The problems are more than statistics, they are human" ones.

Reuther — having just wined and dined with Goldberg and the "business community" at the Sheraton-Cadillac hotel — hastily left to "catch a plane," leaving to Alex Fuller, vice-president of the Wayne County AFL-CIO, the chore of limiting discussion to the selected list.

At this point, the unemployed took a hand. A request by Art Fox, chairman of the UAW Unemployed Coordinating Committee, to make a statement was

brusquely denied. A chant began, "Give Fox the floor." But Fuller refused.

Someone loudly commented, "They're trying to make this a cut-and-dried affair."

Fox Gets Floor

The attempt to rig the hearing did not succeed. When it was half over, Fuller recognized Fox. The representative of the Unemployed Committee said among other things:

"A major reason for increase in productivity is automation and technological advances. Our answer to this problem has always been a 30-hour week and 40-hours pay. Kennedy has called for increased technology, yet has said nothing about the shorter work week. We would like to know what you, Mr. Goldberg, can do about this."

"Second," continued Fox, "Kennedy's proposal for 39 weeks of compensation is no different than that already granted by the Eisenhower administration in 1958. We are now already at the level of the 1958 recession, with economists forecasting a further drop before it 'bottoms out.' We propose that you ask for unemployment compensation for the duration of unemployment — until people are put back to work."

Others made sharp points. A house painter: "How come you got to be 65 to get social security; you got to have no legs and no arms to get it any younger? What's the government going to do to moderate this?"

Another, who said he'd be starving if his married son was not supporting him: "Businessmen — big business is spread all over the world. They're moving operations overseas to cut costs, and turning around and selling the products here at high prices. We need the 30-hour week like Brother Fox says. Right now we could all be working 30 hours — even without increased pay. At least we won't be going hungry."

Cross Misheff of the National Committee for Democratic Action in UAW: "The 'new frontiers' approach should not be limited to 39 weeks insurance. It should provide jobs for everyone who wants to work."

Goldberg side-stepped 30-for-40 with the oily excuse: "We don't want the shorter work week. We have set priorities. The first priority is to put people back to work."

He completely ignored the issue of unlimited unemployment benefits.

On reducing retirement-age standards: "We are seriously concerned."

On shops running away to Europe: "After all, we had to help put Europe on its feet after the war. Don't we all come from over there?"

Fox asked Goldberg if he agreed that a National AFL-CIO conference of the unemployed in Washington would help to dramatize to the powers-that-be the plight of the needy.

Goldberg evaded this with the excuse that he was now no longer in the labor movement.

Letters from Our Readers

Action-Inducing Articles

Baltimore, Md.

In my opinion the *Militant* has too many articles that are not of personal interest to the readers, and about which the readers can do practically nothing.

I noticed in your Jan. 9 issue Tom Kerr had an article on the labor union leadership. And I noticed in the issue of Jan. 23 that this article had aroused at least one man to action. Jim Campbell of Detroit wrote that Kerr's article "started me thinking," and he "went down to the local union meeting to see what McDonald's boys are up to now."

Kerry's article about something that was of personal interest to Campbell; "started him thinking" and aroused him to action. Another kind of article probably makes a man say, "Yes, sir, it's a shame." But since there is apparently nothing that can be done about it, the man settles down in an overstuffed chair, opens another bottle of beer, and just sits.

R. D.

Cuban Democracy

New York, N. Y.

The Castro government has not stopped at establishing a capitalist democracy but has gone on in the building of a socialist democracy. When the Cuban government seized foreign capital they did no more than take back the wealth the Cuban people had created and removed the major obstacle to raising living standards.

While the dollars had piled up in U.S. banks and the puppet Batista regime grew fat on prostitution and crime, the people slowly starved to death. For the plain facts on Cuba's past and present conditions, one has just to read *Listen, Yankee* by C. Wright Mills.

If American citizens are really interested in helping the Cuban people they will do well to work for a resumption of diplomatic relations and economic aid for Cuba, rather than shouting hysterical charges of "Communism."

L. C.

Canadian on Carpet

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Recently on station WNYC I heard a panel of Washington political "experts" badgering a high Canadian government official with leading and loaded questions.

Canada's willingness to trade with Cuba was stigmatized as "disloyalty to the free world."

Canadian dissatisfaction about U.S. capital investments pouring into the country and dominating the economy was presented as "ingratitude" to the U.S.

Canada was also criticized for not going down the line with the U.S. on such issues as colonialism, disarmament and Cuba. There were even suggestions of "subtle Communist subversion" in Canada. The "experts" were also very unhappy with the idea of working for a cease-fire in Laos.

J. A.

Financial Difficulties?

Toronto, Canada

What have you done to our *Militant*?

I was pleasantly curious when I saw your hint of a possible change in its format. Certainly I was pleased, on opening this week's issue, to notice how wonderfully glossy and white the paper was. Honestly, the pictures were as clear as if printed in *Life*. But it was only half there! Half of my weekly *Militant*-reading breakfast still uneaten, and I'd already finished the paper!

J. R.

[As we explained in an editorial in our Jan. 23 issue, steadily mounting printing costs compelled us finally to reduce the size of the *Militant* despite an encouraging growth in circulation. When finances permit, we intend to increase the number of pages. The improved quality of the paper and type faces should be credited to our new printer. — *Editor*]

"Exodus"

Philadelphia, Pa.

I was at the Boyd theater when the police prevented people from counterpicketing Nazi Rockwell at the opening of *Exodus*, the picture about the founding of Israel.

Rockwell didn't have to come. I personally saw policemen telling people not to go in to see the movie. I saw a policeman with a vicious-looking dog tell a kindly looking couple they must not see the picture. The police were doing exactly what the Nazis were doing, trying to stop people from seeing the picture.

Mary Jenkins

China and the USSR

Indianapolis, Ind.

I am enclosing 50 cents for *Their Morals and Ours*, by Leon Trotsky, also the *Communist Manifesto*.

I wish to comment on China and Russia. Our daily papers are full of articles about the war-like actions of China. It seems very odd to me that we have so much trouble with them while England seems to get along quite amicably with them even though it occupies Hong Kong which by all rights should belong to the People's Republic of China. England also gets along peacefully enough with trade and diplomatic relations with China.

There are things about China and Russia I don't approve of such as concentration camps and other police brutality. But we don't have any room to talk with our own faults such as race prejudice and the greediness of our rich class.

On the whole, I think the Communist governments of China and Russia deserve lots of credit for raising the living standards in their respective countries.

And Fidel Castro deserves praise for helping the Cuban people get rid of those grasping U.S. sugar companies.

R. L.

The Santa Maria

Santa Cruz, Calif.

There seems to be much more to the *Santa Maria* affair than meets the approval of the imperialists. Looks like the "incident" made world navies look foolish and the agreement of Brazil to dock the ship expressed their disapproval of imperialists and dictators.

Could the affair have had a revolutionary motive that failed because of bad timing? Angola is in revolt now but missed the chance to have a one-ship navy by three days.

Well, Castro tried six times before he rang the bell for an "imported" Havana cigar.

H. C. B.

Thought for the Week

"From the beginning of classification in 1907 to the end of World War II, the government generated only 325,000 cubic feet of classified documents. But between 1946 and 1958 an estimated one million cubic feet of classified documents were created — and with them staggering problems of storage and control." — Congressman John E. Moss, "The Crisis of Secrecy," in the Jan. Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists.

Marjorie Freeman Wins Her Case

By Joyce Cowley

Marjorie Beech Freeman has just won her case against the Bank of America. The victory of an employee in a contest with one of the world's richest banks is in itself remarkable, but Mrs. Freeman has the even greater distinction of being the first woman to successfully invoke California's equal pay law.

Passed in 1949, the law has been invoked in only 11 cases that came before the State Division of Industrial Welfare. All other cases have been lost "through legal loopholes," according to the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Twenty states now have equal pay laws. They are not very effective, except in comparison with the 30 states that have no laws at all.

Just in case you think that women today hold down big executive jobs, make a man's pay

and don't need the protection of such legislation, I refer you to a recent report of the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor: "In every field, comparing men and women of similar schooling, the median income of women was approximately two-fifths that of men."

The Bank of America has been ordered to give Mrs. Freeman two months back pay, \$430. The differential between her pay and that received by two men in the organization doing comparable work was \$215 a month!

Union officials predict that her victory will force large business firms to review women's pay scales and job classifications, and open the door to higher wages for many nonunion women in white-collar jobs. This is artful, as it gives the impression that most industrial jobs are union, and that in a union shop women invariably get equal pay.

"It's written into the contract," officials say. But even in union shops women's pay averages considerably lower than that of men, because the same type of legal loopholes provided by state legislation may be written into a union contract, too. For example, higher-paid classifications are described in a way that automatically excludes women.

In industry, unorganized women workers get the lowest pay, frequently the \$1-an-hour minimum. In agriculture, where piece work still prevails, they average less than a dollar.

Instead of smug statements about equal pay being written into union contracts, it is the responsibility of unions to improve these contracts and fight to extend their benefits to the millions of women — 85 per cent of the working women in the United States — who do not belong to unions.

It Was Reported in the Press

Justice with Mercy — The fines levied against the electrical trusts for rigging prices will not be tax deductible, says the Treasury Department. But attorney fees and other legal expenses of the case will probably be allowed as legitimate deductions.

Hip — Jazz musician Miles Davis told the *Boston Traveller* Jan. 31 that he doesn't intend to make any overseas tours for the State Department. "Why should I go the way they treat Negroes in this country?" he said. "I don't want to go as a second-class citizen."

Iron Logic — In the Feb. 1 *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, staff writer William Schulze defends the film strip, *Communism on the Map*, which contends that all governments except those of Switzerland, West Germany, Formosa and the U.S., are influenced or controlled by "Communists." Says Schulze: "There is no reason to expect *Communism on the Map* to be a detached study of the world's ideologies. No more than there

was to expect Paul Revere to document his warning that the British were coming. Or even to give a precise report on where along the road the British were. Revere didn't know. Presumably only the Communists know where they are today."

Shrinking Labor Market — On the basis of stepped-up productivity, Melvin Baker, board chairman of National Gypsum Co., predicts that the work force will increase by only two million in the next decade while the population will grow by more than 28 million.

Success Formula — "The chief reason we are so steadily losing the cold war is that our Government feels obligated to apply peacetime ethical principles in the conduct of the struggle . . . Is it not time to apply the no-holds-barred principles we have used so successfully in every hot war we have fought?" — From a letter to the *New York Times*.

The Choice — "What is the No. 1 priority danger before the West today? Is it communism or is it something else? Either we are allies against communism and you stand by us in Africa or we must reexamine the whole basis of NATO." — Portuguese Foreign Minister Matias on why the U.S. should continue supporting dictator Salazar's tyrannical rule over African colonies.

For Labor Unity — A resolution unanimously adopted by the Wisconsin AFL-CIO executive board urges the national AFL-CIO to seek the readmission of the Teamsters Union.

No Connection? — The American Civil Liberties Union has protested to the University of Miami for forbidding a student to circulate a petition calling for abolition of the House Un-American Activities Committee. A school spokesman said the petition was barred because it had "no direct connection with the university."